

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
26 February 2004 (26.02.2004)

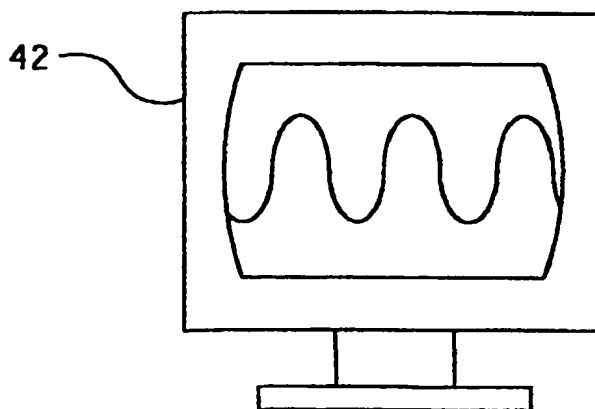
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/016168 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A61B 5/103, 5/117
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/026057
- (22) International Filing Date: 19 August 2003 (19.08.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/404,808 19 August 2002 (19.08.2002) US
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CZARNEK & ORKIN LABORATORIES, INC. [US/US]; 215 Prospect Avenue, Highland Park, IL 60035 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): CZARNEK, Robert [US/US]; 1885 Dolphin Drive, Johnstown, PA 15904 (US).
- (74) Agents: ORKIN, Russell, D. et al.; Webb Ziesenheim Logsdon Orkin & Hanson, P.C., 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1818 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT (utility model), AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ (utility model), CZ, DE (utility model), DE, DK (utility model), DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE (utility model), EE, ES, FI (utility model), FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT (utility model), PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK (utility model), SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Declarations under Rule 4.17:  
— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CAPACITIVE UTERINE CONTRACTION SENSOR



(57) Abstract: A capacitive uterine contraction sensor (28) includes an insulating substrate (18), a first electrode (20) disposed on one side of the substrate (18), and a second electrode (22) positioned in a spaced relation to the first electrode (20). The second electrode (22) is configured to move toward or away from the first electrode (20). The sensor may also include a conductive standoff (24) sandwiched between the substrate (18) and the second electrode (22) for maintaining the second electrode (22) in a spaced relation to the first electrode (20). The conductive standoff (24) is electrically coupled to the second electrode (22) and electrically isolated from the first electrode (20). Alternatively, the second electrode (22) may include a spring mechanism used in conjunction with a standoff (24) to maintain the second electrode (22) in a spaced relation to the first electrode (20). The spring mechanism is electrically isolated from the first electrode (20) and enables the second electrode (22) to move toward or away from the first electrode (20).

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FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

**Published:**

— with international search report

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

8 April 2004

(15) Information about Correction:

see PCT Gazette No. 15/2004 of 8 April 2004, Section II

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*